(c) whether it is also a fact that telephonic/written complaints have been lodged with the DMS about this as the consumers are not ready to take the leaked packets resulting in acrimonious scenes at the booths.

(d) if so, what steps have been taken by the DMS to rectify the situation; and

(e) whether DMS proposes to supply some extra packets free of cost to the booths to compensate the wastage of milk due to leakage?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHIR SHYAM LAL YADAV): (a) Delhi Milk Scheme has taken a policy decision to gradually switch over to sale of milk in polypack pouches instead of bottles. Milk is being supplied at present both in polypack and in bottles all over Delhi.

(b) Some incidents of leakage are there which is a normal phenomenon in handling of milk in polythene pouches.

(c) to (e) Some complaints regarding leaky pouches have been received by the DMS from consumers. DMS has taken following steps so that consumers do not get leaky pouches:—

(i) Heavy Vehicle Drivers have been instructed not to deliver leaky pouches at the booths and bring back these pouches to DMS.

(ii) Similarly Depot Agents have also been advised not to deliver leaky pouches to customers.

Collapsing of Intermediate Platform in Bokaro Steel Plant

3052. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether number of persons died and some injured following collapse of intermediate platform in Bokaro Steel Plant recently;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) the outcome of the inquiry made by Government into the incident and what action has been taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF STEEL IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA): (a) and (b) Eight persons died and four were injured in an accident at Bokaro Steel Plant on 18-7-88 when in the Blast Furnace No. 3, which was under capital repairs, one of the three steel platforms tilted on one side due to sudden failure of one of the top pulley blocks resulting in the fall of persons working thereon.

(c) An Enquiry Committee under the Chairmanship of General Manager (Projects) of Bokaro Steel Plant which investigated into the causes of the accident, has *prima facie*, concluded that the accident occured on account of material failure of the equipment. The detailed report of the Committee is under finalisation. In the meantime immediate relief to the injured and next of kin of the deceased has been arranged.

Use of Bio-Fertilisers

3053 SHRI RAM AWADHESH SINGH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether chemical fertilizer subsidies are a serious strain on the economy;

(b) whether chemical fertilisers are mainly used by affluent farmers;

(c) whether Bio-organic farming is gaining widespread use as a part of sustainable agriculture; and